

**307 Spencer Place**  
**Paramus, New Jersey 07652**

January 13, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The purpose of this letter is to go on record as being a staunch supporter of the settlement that was reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice last November. The settlement will finally bring an end to the three-year long litigation process that has cost both sides millions of dollars.

The settlement will greatly benefit competition, the technology industry, and the American economy. I am sure that you are aware that the economic downturn that started three years ago was partly caused by the suit against Microsoft. It only took three years for the economy to go from being the best it ever has been, to being stuck in the middle of a recession.

Again, I would like to go on record as supporting the settlement between Microsoft and the Department of Justice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul DeMaria". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" and last name "DeMaria" clearly distinguishable.

Paul DeMaria